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News Release

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Travel Management Rule for Silver City and Glenwood Ranger Districts goes into effect January 1, 2017

Silver City, NM, December 19, 2016—For Immediate Release. The Travel Management Rule (TMR) goes into effect across the remaining two districts of the Gila National Forest on January 1, 2017. The TMR is mandated across all national forests and prohibits motor vehicle use off designated routes and roads. This action now implements the travel management decision for the **entire** Gila National Forest.

Any motor vehicle use map (MVUM) dated 2016 is current and valid. A new MVUM for Big Burro Mountains is now available. You may continue to use your current map or if you would like a new map, without the cross-hatching, you may come into any of the Gila National Forest offices or see the digital address below.

The MVUM is the legal document displaying the roads, trails, and areas open to motor vehicle use of the forest. The MVUM is free of charge and is also available digitally at http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/gis/USFS_Southwestern_Region_MVUM_Repository.html.

In November of 2005, the Forest Service published final travel management regulations in the Federal Register requiring each National Forest or Ranger District in the nation to designate roads, trails, and areas open to motor vehicles.

Highlights of the decision:

- The decision keeps open 3,334 miles of road, increases motorized trail opportunities from 16 to 179 miles and maintains a 3-acre area for motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle use.

- The 3.3 million acres of forest remain open to all users; only the use of motorized travel is restricted to the designated open travel routes.
- Hunters are allowed to drive up to 300 feet from either side of roads designated with a corridor to retrieve their big game.
- Fuelwood cutters can use their motorized vehicle within designated cutting areas to gather their fuelwood.

For more information, please call Marta Call, Public Affairs Officer at 575.388.8211.

For information on the Gila National Forest, check out our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/gila> or join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GilaNForest/ or follow us on Twitter @GilaNForest.

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